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TITLE PAGE

NOV 30 1921 ✓

✓ THE CONQUERING POWER ✓

✓ ADAPTED BY: June Mathis

Story by: BALZAC ✓

Photoplay of 7 Reels ✓

✓ Directed By: REX INGRAM ✓

A Rex Ingram Production for: Metro Pictures Corporation,  
U. S. A.

NOV 30 1921

From J. E. D. Meador  
Director of Publicity,  
Metro Pictures Corporation,  
1542 Broadway, New York.

J-11  
A Rex Ingram Production for Metro  
Pictures Corporation.  
Adapted by June Mathis from Balzac's  
story, "Eugenie Grandet."  
Photographed by John F. Seitz  
Technical Directors, Ralph Barton  
and Amos Myers.

METRO PICTURES CORPORATION

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presents

NOV 30 1921

THE CONQUERING POWER

*7 reels*  
(Six Acts)

-----CAST-----

Eugenie Grandet.....	Alice Terry
Charles Grandet.....	Rudolph Valentino
Pere Grandet.....	Ralph Lewis
Madame Grandet.....	Edna Dumary
Notary Cruchot.....	Edward Connelly
Cruchot de Bonfons (his son).....	George Atkinson
Abbe Cruchot.....	Willard Lee Hall
Nanon.....	Mary Hearn
Madame des Grassines.....	Bridgetta Clark
M. de Grassines.....	Mark Fenton
Cornoiller.....	Eugene Fox et
Alphonse.....	Ward Wing

#### THE STORY

The Grandet family live in ancient, dark, unheated house in Saumur, a French provincial city on the Loire. A desperate economy rules their existence, although Monsieur Grandet is the wealthiest man in the province, with a fortune accumulated from sharp realty transactions and in his profession as wine merchant and cooper. Madame Grandet, a deeply religious Catholic, readily submits to the regime of mean poverty, and their daughter, Eugenie, knows no other life. Every son is counted with passionate care by the miserly father. And he is aided in his economies by the thrifty Nanon, the only servant in the house.

-2- The Conquering Power.

But Eugenie is an heiress, whose fortune will eventually run high into the millions, and her wealth attracts aspiring suitors as she becomes of age. The most eligible of these pretenders to her hand is Cruchot de Bonfons, a minor magistrate in the city. Another, also in the race, is Alphonse des Grassines, son of a local banker.

Matrimonial scheming is interrupted by the arrival from Paris of Grandet's nephew, Charles, a Parisian dandy whose youthful smartness and good looks arouse a sudden tender love in Eugenie. Charles brings with him a letter from his father to old Grandet -- a letter in which the father announces that he is committing suicide because of his business failure, and recommending his son to Grandet's good graces.

Old Grandet decides to send Charles to the West Indies on a business commission. Charles one day falls asleep in his room, where Eugenie, peeping in, discovers a photo of a Parisian girl and a letter in full view on the table. She learns that he loves, and is possibly loved by another. But, notwithstanding, she forces him to accept some pieces of gold, birthday gifts given by her father since her babyhood. Charles leaves, heartened by the intelligence that the old miser intends to pay his brother's debt and thus clear the family dishonor. He fails to tell Charles that the plan, ostensibly altruistic, will really bring him millions in profits.

Eugenie's gift to Charles she dare not disclose to her father. But she is called to a reckoning when, according to his custom, he asks to see the gold on her birthday. Discovering that Charles has it, old Grandet, frenziedly angry, orders Eugenie to her room where she endures a prison life on bread and water as punishment. All the village discusses the matter, and the old notary warns Grandet that unless he is reconciled with Eugenie, the latter will have much of the miser's wealth as soon as Madame Grandet dies, in accord with a French law.

-3- The Conquering Power.

Madame Grandet dies soon afterwards, and the miser frees Eugenie, forcing her to sign the paper that makes over her fortune to him. While writing her name, Eugenie sees letters from Charles to her, which Pere Grandet had failed to deliver, and letters she has written to Charles.

She furiously leaves the room. Old Grandet opens the secret panels in the room, and soon is lost in contemplation of all the gold hidden there. After he has counted and recounted his wealth, he returns it to the secret shelves. But as he turns to leave the room, he finds that the spring lock has caught, making him a prisoner. In vain he tries the small window, whose bars prevent his escape. In his frantic efforts to escape, he overturns the cabinet filled with gold. The heavy piece of furniture bearing down on him crushes him to death with its burden of gold.

Eugenie Grandet now is alone, mistress of untold wealth. Suitors press for her hand. It pains her to think that her cousin Charles, recently returned from the West Indies, has not called upon her. While strolling one day through the gardens, she sits down on the same bench where years before she and Charles had sat. A man wanders to the spot and remains gazing at her. Eugenie is startled to notice a stranger intruding upon the privacy of her shrine. She does not recognize in the bearded man the one she loves. The stranger speaks. Immediately she knows him. Eugenie asks him to explain his long silence, and he replies that since she is married, he had not supposed she would live here or would want to see him. Then Eugenie tells him that she is not married, that he is the only man she loves. Charles retorts that he had received a letter from her father acquainting him with her marriage, news that had made him abandon all hope and forced him to absent himself.

The reason for his neglect is thus cleared away, all is forgiven, and both resume their lives at the point where they had left off.

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NOV 30 1921

Dated at Washington, D. C.

November 28th, 1921.

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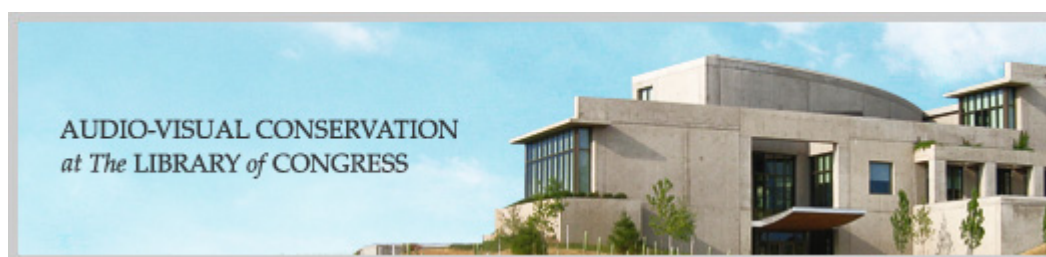
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